

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEVILL 00451 271512Z

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 EB-08 COME-00 CA-01

FTC-01 L-03 H-02 /034 W

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FM AMCONSUL SEVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2934

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

UNCLAS SEVILLE 0451

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, SP

SUBJECT: COMPLAINTS AGAINST NATIONWIDE LEISURE, INC.

1. HOTELS ALOHA PLAYA AND MELIA COSTA DEL SOL IN MALAGA PROVINCE HAVE INFORMED US THAT THEY ARE NO LONGER DISPOSED TO ACCOMMODATE ANY USCIT TOURISTS WHO ARRIVE AS PART OF TOURS ORGANIZED BY NATIONWIDE LEISURE, INC. OF HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND, N.Y., TEL: (516) 420-4200. NATIONWIDE APPARENTLY ALREADY OWES ALOHA PLAYA APPROX 17,000 DOLS AND MELIA COSTA APPROX 20,000 DOLS FOR PAST GROUPS, PLUS ANOTHER 6,300 DOLS FOR GROUPS ALREADY BOOKED. BOTH HOTELS HAVE SENT URGENT CABLES TO NATIONWIDE STATING FLATLY THAT UNLESS PAYMENTS ARE FORTHCOMING, ARRIVING TOURISTS WILL NOT BE ADMITTED IN HOTELS AND THAT FUTURE RESERVATIONS FOR MONTH OF AUGUST WILL BE CANCELED.

2. DIRECTOR MELIA COSTA DEL SOL ENRIQUE CIBANTOS INFORMS US THAT CURRENT NATIONWIDE GROUP WHICH ARRIVED THIS WEEK IS BEING ACCOMMODATED. NEVERTHELESS, CIBANTOS INDICATED HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT NATIONWIDE WAS PRACTICALLY BANKRUPT. MELIA HAS ALREADY RECEIVED FOUR RETURNED CHECKS FROM BANK OF BABYLONIA IN BABYLON, N.Y. WHICH WAS RETURNING CHECKS PAYABLE FROM NATIONWIDE ACCOUNT.

3. POST ANTICIPATES THAT FURTHER ARRIVALS OF NATIONWIDE GROUPS

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WILL ENGENDER WELFARE/PROTECTION PROBLEMS OF CONSIDERABLE PROPORTION WHICH WE WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO AVOID IF POSSIBLE. COSTA DEL SOL HOTELS HAVE BEEN BOOKED SOLID AND SUCH UNACCOMMODATED GROUPS COULD WELL FIND THEMSELVES OUT ON STREETS IN SOARING AUGUST HEAT (TEMPERATURES ARE NOW IN 90'S AND 100'S IN MANY AREAS OF ANDALUSIA). DEPARTMENT MAY THEREFORE WISH TO CALL NATIONWIDE IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN PRECISELY WHAT WE MIGHT EXPECT

IN THAT REGARD AND WHETHER PAYMENT PROBLEM WITH MELIA AND AALOHA
PLAYA HOTELS IS BEING RESOLVED. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.FOUCHE

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